Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Haley S4316 Transcribed by Will Graves

f24VA 2/3/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Davidson County

On the 25 day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before William Williams, Jesse Wharton and Enoch P Connell Esquires Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for the said County of Davidson at Nashville now sitting James Hayley [sic] a Resident of Davidson County Tennessee State who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th Day 1832, that he was Born in the State of Virginia and raised in Lunenburg County and is now about seventy-five years of age and was born in 1757 agreeable to the record of my Father that he entered the service of the Revolution War under the following named officers and served as herein stated, about the first day of March the year not recollected I listed [enlisted] as a minute man for twelve months under Captain Robert Dickson Alexander Winn Lieutenant and Peter Jones Ensign Charles Lewis first Colonel & Haynes Morgan 2nd Colonel we met at Lunenburg Court House about the first day of May and was ordered to march to Wake County North Carolina against the Tories, we marched to Kemps Ferry on Rone oake [Roanoke River] then crossed Fishing Creek in Halifax County North Carolina, we were then ordered back to Virginia by an officer I think John Blar [John Blair?] we then marched to Petersburg then to Cobham on James River, then to Williamsburg From thence to Gwins Island [Gwinn Island] to oppose the British & Governor Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia] who had robbed the Magazine and gone to the British on Gwins Island where we drove the British and Dunmore from the Island [December 9, 1775] and caught thirtyseven head of horses and two tenders one of those tenders had a match left in her by the British that blew up the barge and killed two of our men, we also took one woman and a little boy about ten years old the woman said she was the wife of the Captain that commanded the other ship or Guard ship, in this Expedition I did not go on the Island myself because I had not had the smallpox but three of my messmates went to Gwins Island William Parrott, ¹ Joseph Billips & John Cunningham.² I myself was in sight also and staid there about one month, Dunmore went up the Potomac [River] we then marched up the Potomac to Northampton County and then returned home about the first day of September, I do not recollect whether I received a discharge or not but I received my pay \$32 at Lunenburg Court House in Virginia – and again in August 1781 I was drafted to oppose Lord Corn Wallace [Cornwallis] in Virginia and about the 18 day of August I rendezvoused at Lunenburg Court house under the command of Captain Roberson and

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¹ William Parrott S10253

² John Cunningham S3250

James Vaughn Lieutenant and John Holcom [John Holcomb] Colonel, we then marched to Petersburg then to Swan Point where we were stationed a short time Colonel Holcomb gave me a furlough to go home, then John Smithson called on me to help him to collect beef cattle to drive to the Army and before we got ready to start Cornwallis had surrendered to the American Army [October 19, 1781] & I never joined the Army again neither did I receive any Pay nor did I receive any discharge, I moved from Lunenburg County in Virginia to Rockingham County North Carolina in 1792 and in 1806 I moved to the State of Tennessee and I have lived in Davidson County where I now live many years past, there is no person in Tennessee that I know of by whom I can prove my service except Mr. Richard Watkins³ whose deposition is herein enclosed.

I hereby relinquish all claims whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and further declare that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above.

Teste: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

S/ James Haley

[Guy McFadden, a clergyman, and William H Nance gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Davidson County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the said County James Hayley who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned here below and in the following Grades. First I served from the first of May the date not recollected under Captain Dickson to the first of September following in all four months as a Private soldier, the second tower [tour] I commenced on the 18 day of August 1781 under the Command of Captain Robeson as per declaration as a Private soldier in all I served 6 months as a Private soldier. For which I claim a Pension

S/ James Haley

[Facts in file: the veteran died October 27, 1841, place not stated; the file contains no family data.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]

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³ This file does not contain an affidavit from Richard Watkins.